



Library News

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The Morristown & Morris Township Library, 1 Miller Road, Morristown, NJ

973-538-6161



Director's Column by Chad Leinaweaver

When you think of a library, you think BOOKS! But did you know that we actually have almost 20 different "item types" in our library catalog? From a Libby audiobook download to a Guggenheim Museum pass, with your MMT card you can borrow a wide variety of different objects and items. Our *Library of Things* and *Museum Pass* collections, located in the Circulation Room, have something for everyone. My personal

favorite is the Ladder Golf set which I used recently at a family BBQ. Other staff favorites are the vinyl record turntable and the car diagnostic test tool. Wi-fi hotspots and the metal detector are our most popular check-outs. Jigsaw puzzles are also incredibly popular and we have a fantastic collection to borrow in the Media Department. Many of these things are objects which you may only need once so might not want to purchase, or things that you would like to try out before you buy your own. Ask at the Circulation Desk for more information and loan policies.

President's Message

by Linda Muse-Deo

It's the middle of August already, and summer will be over in another month. It's been a busy time at the Library as donations of used books and media have been coming in regularly. Those generous donations have enabled us to continue to support many programs at the Library.

For the months of July and August, we've been selling all books in our lower-level bookstore at half price. As you can imagine, this offer has been attracting customers, and our sales have been very good. There have been no Saturday sales during July and August, but they will resume in September on the first and third Saturdays of each month.

Have you heard about the Library's *Virtual Classics Book Club*? It is held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. The book to be discussed on September 11 is *The Cider House Rules* by John Irving. The discussion is led by a member of the Library staff on Zoom. You can request access details by emailing morristownreaders@mmt.mainlib.org.

The Friends of the Morristown and Morris Township Library appreciate your contributions of gently used books. As a reminder, we cannot take small paperback books, Time Life books, encyclopedias, magazines, dictionaries or textbooks (other than math subjects). We take media of all kinds.

We look forward to seeing you at our sales soon, and we thank you for your donations.



Justina Addice, our Bookmobile & Outreach Coordinator, poses next to a panel from our latest storybook on the front lawn of the Library. The panels are arranged in chronological order so the story can be read as you walk around the Library grounds. The story is available to the public even if the Library is closed. Stories are changed periodically.

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News from The Caroline Rose Foster North Jersey History and Genealogy Center

by James Lewis

The CRFNJHGC provides free access to many genealogy databases to help you with researching your family history. Did you know that MMT Library cardholders can also access some of them from home? Cardholders can use the following databases remotely:

MyHeritage: provides access to records from across the globe, not just the good old US of A!

Heritage Quest: an **Ancestry.com** product that provides access to American and Canadian resources including history books and U.S. Freedman's Bank Records.

NOTE the Research Aids for those getting started:

ProQuest's Historical Northeast Newspapers with coverage dating from 1785 to 2010 from all over New Jersey (including *Morris County's Daily Record* from 1974-2010) New York, Pennsylvania, and a few from Delaware.

Heritage Hub: mainly a collection of obituaries, but by doing a keyword search you can also search for regular news articles from across the country which should be of great help to students!

For those interested in the War Between the States, **Civil War Era** provides access to newspapers from Union states Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania as well as Confederate States Kentucky, Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia from 1840-1865.

If you do not find what you are seeking in the aforementioned databases, we can provide access to a few more in the CRFNJHGC in the Library's lower level. We are happy to help you!



The Children's Department by Abigail Hsu

It's Back-to-School season! As children prepare for a new school year, emotions can range from giddy excitement to nervous jitters. Luckily, there are plenty of books that address all sorts of worries and questions from students of all ages.

If someone is hesitant about the first day of school, try *Alpaca Goes Back-Ato School* by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen. This cheerful picture book follows Alpaca throughout the first day of school, from waiting for the school bus with Mom to meeting teacher Mrs. Yak-a to playing and working together in class with new friends. The text is filled with words riffing off of "alpaca" ("pack-a a snack-a," "click-clack-a," etc.), making for an entertaining read-aloud experience. Curious about how your school came to be? *This Is the Crew That Builds Our School* by Sherry Fellores follows construction workers and tradespeople, from bricklayers to painters, as they build a new school. The rhyming text makes this a great option for a sing-along book.

Students who are beginning to read on their own can try *Lucky Ducky's Very First Day of School* by Mercer Mayer, where Little Critter tries to find his sister's favorite stuffed toy before the first day of school, and *You Can Find the Class Pet, Pout-Pout Fish!* by Deborah Diesen, a classroom mystery about a missing class pet. Readers who enjoy routine in their lives will find a kindred spirit in the main character of *Henry, Like Always* by Jenn Bailey. Henry, a first grader on the autism spectrum, attempts to navigate friendships, and sudden changes in classroom routines.

Anxious about moving to a new school? *Amina Banana* by Shifa Saltagi Safadi is a new chapter book series about a third-grader who just moved from Syria to Indiana. In *Amina Banana and the Formula for Friendship*, Amina tries to find the perfect formula to make friends at her new school; in *Amina Banana and the Formula for Winning*, Amina, is determined to win the school's spelling bee even though English is an additional language for her. For something more fantastical, try *The Last Hope School for Magical Delinquents* by Nicki Pau Preto and *The Midwatch Institute for Wayward Girls* by Judith Rossell. In *The Last Hope School*, twelve-year-old Lavinia finds herself at a last-resort magical school where she teams up with her misfit classmates to save the school from danger. In *The Midwatch Institute*, Maggie, an orphan, is sent to the dreary Midwatch Institute, which is actually a secret training ground for young girls where they learn skills to fight crime.

These are only a few of our books for children about school life. Visit the Children's Room and have a chat with one of our librarians for some personal recommendations!

Friends of the Library Scholarship Awards

MMT Library's Adult Readers Advisor *Tatiana Pagan* and Circulation Department Assistant *Jill Hammaren* were the proud recipients of the annual Friends of the 2025 Library Marian Gerhart Scholarship awards. Rachel and Tatiana are both pursuing Masters Degrees in Library and Information Science. The Library staff and administration is grateful that the Friends provide this scholarship to assist the next generation of



Tatiana Pagan and Linda Muse-Deo (President of the Friends)



Jill Hammaren librarians.

ON THE SHELF



Nuevos Títulos en Español by Felix Vallovera

El albatros negro de María Oruña

Uno de los tesoros más codiciados y enigmáticos del mundo submarino se esconde en las profundidades del océano Atlántico. Una anciana historiadora naval podría tener la clave para rescatarlo, pero muere de repente en extrañas circunstancias. Pietro Rivas, un subinspector que acaba de llegar a la ciudad, será el encargado de investigar el caso junto con Nagore Freire, una extravagante inspectora de Patrimonio. Cuando las muertes comienzan a sucederse, la policía descubre que la clave para resolverlas reside en la historia del galeón Albatros Negro. Y en cómo en el año 1700, en la antigua villa amurallada de Vigo, una joven entomóloga fue capaz de cambiar con su audacia el curso de la historia.

El buen mal de Samanta Schweblin

Magnéticos e irresistibles. En cada uno de los cuentos de *El buen mal*, Samanta Schweblin nos abduce a otra dimensión donde quedamos en contacto íntimo con sus personajes. Encandilados por el fulgor de la inminente tragedia, vulnerables y profundamente humanos, advierten cuánto podría transformarlos la irrupción de lo inesperado. A algunos los dejará de pie frente al dolor, a otros dialogando con la culpa y a todos atravesados por la incertidumbre. ¿Importa saber qué es verdad? Se trata, de principio a fin, de ser partícipes de un fenomenal artificio literario.

New Books in Spanish (English Translation)

The Black Albatross by María Oruña

One of the underwater world's most coveted and enigmatic treasures is hidden in the depths of the Atlantic Ocean. An elderly naval historian might hold the key to rescuing him, but he dies suddenly under strange circumstances. Pietro Rivas, a sub-inspector who has just arrived in the city, will be in charge of investigating the case along with Nagore Freire, an extravagant Heritage inspector. When deaths begin to happen, the police discover that the key to solving them lies in the story of the Black Albatross galleon and how in the year 1700, in the old walled town of Vigo, a young entomologist was able to change the course of history with her audacity.

The Good Evil by Samanta Schweblin

Magnetic and irresistible in each of these stories, Schweblin abducts us to another dimension where we remain in intimate contact with her characters. Dazzled by the brilliance of the impending tragedy, vulnerable and deeply human, they realize how much the irruption of the unexpected could transform them. Some will leave them standing in the face of pain, others in dialogue with guilt and all of them crossed by uncertainty. Does it matter knowing what is true? It is, from beginning to end, about being participants in a phenomenal literary artifice.

New Nonfiction by Jessie Best

Replaceable You by Mary Roach

New York Times best-selling author of *Stiff* and *Fuzz* explores the quest to re-create the impossible complexities of human anatomy. Readers will be immersed in the wondrous, improbable, and surreal quest to build a new you.

Finding My Way by Malala Yousafzai

Thrust onto the public stage at age 15 after the Taliban's brutal attack on her life, Malala Yousafzai became an international icon known for bravery and resilience. In her astonishing memoir, she reintroduces herself to the world, sharing how she navigated life as someone whose darkest moments threatened to define her narrative, while seeking the freedom to find out who she truly is.

The Art of Jacques Pepin by Jacques Pepin

Celebrate the 90th birthday of legendary chef Jacques Pepin and his life of cooking and painting with 99 of his all-time favorite and most-cooked recipes, combined with his signature artworks.

Umma: A Korean Mom's Kitchen Wisdom

by Sarah Ahn & Nam Soon Ahn

Learn Korean cooking alongside social media star Sarah Ahn as her umma passes down family recipes and kitchen wisdom. The Ahns, with funny, profound, and universally relatable conversations, show that when generations come together in the kitchen, so much is shared: knowledge, advice, family history, and love.

New Fiction by Jessie Best

Always Remember by Charlie Mackesy

The unlikely friends readers fell in love with in Charlie Mackesy's *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, the Horse and the Storm* are wandering through the wilds again. Not sure what they are looking for, they do know that life can be difficult, but that they love each other, and cake is often the answer. When the dark clouds come, can the boy remember what he needs to get through the storm?

The Belles by Lacey N. Dunham

A debut about a young woman with a secretive past who will risk everything, including her life, to fit in. This is a chilling coming-of-age story that delves into the dark side of girlhood, the intricacies of privilege, and the unbridled desire to belong at any cost.

Wreck by Catherine Newman

A standalone follow-up novel featuring the anxiously hilarious Rocky and her family, introduced to readers in the bestselling *Sandwich*. Newman uses her trademark wit and wisdom to explore the hidden rules of family, the heavy weight of uncertainty, and the gnarly fact that people — no matter how much you love them — are not always exactly who you want them to be.

Bog Queen by Anna North

When remains are discovered in a bog in England, Agnes, a forensic anthropologist, is drawn into a clash of worlds, past and present, over the fate of the land that holds us. Brimming with urgency and ancient wisdom, *Bog Queen* connects across time two gifted, farsighted young women learning to harness their strange strengths in a complex and mysterious landscape.

The Morristown & Morris Township Library
One Miller Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

How to Reach Us:

Library email: info@jfpl.org

General: 973-538-6161

Reference: 973-538-2592

Local History: 973-538-3473

Visit the Library's website for more information
MMTLibrary.org

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& Morris Township
Library on Social Media



♥ **Become a FRIEND** ♥
of the Morristown & Morris Township Library!

Please join us as we work to
help YOUR Library!

NEW

RENEWAL

Individual: \$15

Family: \$30

Patron: \$60 & up

Benefactor: \$100 & up

Please make checks out to "Friends of the
Morristown & Morris Township Library"

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

VOLUNTEER WITH THE FRIENDS!

___YES, I would like to volunteer with the Friends of the Library! Please contact me with more information!

For more information about the Friends and opportunities to participate, email
Friends@MMT.Mainlib.org.

**Please leave this form at the Library
Circulation Desk or mail to:**

Friends of the Morristown/Morris Township Library,
1 Miller Road, Morristown, NJ 07960-5234

You can find this form on the Library's website
at **mmtlibrary.org**.

Click on "ABOUT US" and then click on
"JOIN THE FRIENDS."

Support YOUR Library — Be a FRIEND! ♥

Don't forget to to renew your FRIEND'S membership for 2025. It is important to help fund Library programs by joining and maintaining a membership with the Friends. We are so grateful to those who donate to us annually so we can support this amazing Library. If you have yet to renew your membership — or are not yet a Friend — fill out the form on the borrom left of this page. We thank you for your contributions to the Friends!



New Main Loan Period Changes by Jennifer Harter

If you have borrowed something from the Library recently, you may have noticed something new. We have changed some of our borrowing rules to standardize with the rest of the Main Library Alliance members. So you will see both shorter AND longer loan periods when you check things out. No matter which Main library you visit, you can borrow items for the same length of time! Here's how long you can keep some of our most popular materials:

- Books, CDs (audiobooks and music): 21 days
- New Books, DVDs/Blu-Rays, Library of Things, Puzzles, Video Games: 14 days
- New DVDs/Blu-Rays: 7 days
- Museum Passes: 4 days

Most items will be automatically renewed unless they have been requested by another Library patron. If you have any questions, ask at the Circulation Desk.

New Employees by Mary Lynn Becza

Lots of new faces in the Library this year! Say hello to our latest staff members, we're sure you will like them as much as we do. We are also welcoming Library Assistants Jeff Maksuta and Jill Hammaren into the Circulation Department. Jill has a background in education and public health and enjoys photography, films and writing. Jeff has a background in graphic design and enjoys reading. Both previously were part-time Library Assistants in our Media Department. Stay tuned to this column next month as we will be welcoming additional new MMT staff!

Meet **Nancy Ort**, our new Young Adult Librarian! She recently earned her Master's in Library and Information Science from Rutgers University and brings a passion for connecting with teens through books and programming. Before entering the library field, she spent many years in Connecticut working with middle school students as a Writing Interventionist. She is also a certified teacher here in NJ. When she's not in the library, you'll probably find her out on the trail – Nancy's always up for a good hike.



Welcome to our new part-time Media Library Assistant, **Nicole Turcios**! She previously worked as a receptionist at a hair salon and a night auditor at a hotel, but she always wanted to work in a library ever since she was a library helper in middle school! She is very excited to be a part of the MMT team. In her spare time, she plays video games, hangs out with friends and annoys her dog, Zeus.



Our well-read new part-time Readers Advisor **Liz Amato** received her MA in English from Montclair State University. She has worked as an adjunct English professor at Sussex County Community College for the past 15 years. She has published poetry and worked as a freelance writer for a local newspaper. She is an avid music enthusiast and loves Pilates, yoga, running, and good food.

